



*Chippewa National Forest*

News Release



## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **CHIPPEWA NATIONAL FOREST BEGINS SPRING OHV ROAD CLOSURES MARCH 15**

All roads open to Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) will be temporarily closed to OHV use from March 15 until May to prevent damage to roads during the spring break-up period.

The Chippewa National Forest OHV Travel Management decision was issued in November 2007 and went into effect May 2008 with the printing of the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) displaying roads available for OHV riding. Effective March 2009, the seasonal road closures will take effect. The temporary closure to OHV use was initiated in response to resource protection concerns expressed by the public, and consistency with the spring break-up period when roads are also closed to heavy vehicle traffic. The temporary closure does not affect snowmobiles. Cross country travel by motorized vehicles continues to be prohibited by National Forest Service policy.

Recreationists can obtain a free updated Motor Vehicle Use Map from any Chippewa National Forest office (Blackduck, Cass Lake, Deer River, Walker). The MVUM shows which roads are legally open for OHV use. Corrections and public suggestions have been reviewed, and many have been incorporated in the updated MVUM. The MVUM will continue to be reviewed and updated annually.

**E-N-D**

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